

**Amendments to the Specification:**

Above title, please delete

Description

Before paragraph [0001], please insert

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

Please amend paragraph [0001] as follows

[0001] The invention relates to a carrying bag, in particular for frozen food items, with handles and a fold-over flap with a slit configured to accept the handles and to maintain parallel alignment between the handles while preventing the slit from tearing even when the carrying bag is fully loaded according to the preamble of claim 1.

Before paragraph [0014] please insert

SUMMARY OR THE INVENTION

Please amend paragraph [0012] as follows

[0012] ~~The object is solved by the characterizing features of claim 1. Advantageous embodiments are recited in the dependent claims 2 to 5.~~

Please amend paragraph [0013] as follows:

[0013] According to one aspect of the invention, a carrying bag for food products has two side sections each having edge portions which are connected with each other to form a common bottom section and an upper bag opening. Each of the side portions has an interior side including a handle located in a common attachment plane, wherein one of the two side sections has a greater height than the other side section and defines an overlap formed as a fold-over flap which includes a slit located above the attachment plane. The slit is configured to receive both handles.

The fold-over flap is configured for connection with an outer surface of the other side section by a closure element which extends across the entire width of the carrying bag

Before paragraph [0016], please insert

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

Before paragraph [0022], please insert

DETAIL DESCRIPTION OF ILLUSTRATED EXEMPLARY EMBODIMENTS